Preservation of old monuments

2140. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government assistance for preservation and protection of old monuments of Orissa including Sun Temple Konark (Black Pagoda) is not adequate;

(b) the total assistance given to Orissa for the purpose during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) whether Government have any proposal to re-built the Sun Temple, Konark in Orissa keeping in view that major portion of Sun Temple has already been demolished?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Sufficient expenditure as per the following year-wise details was incurred on the maintenance and structural conservation of selected monuments of Orissa, including the Sun Temple at Konark.

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Year	Expenditure
1999-2000	64.75
2000-2001	56.03
2001-2002	114.73

(c) The Archaeological Survey of India does not re-build ancient monuments which had been damaged in the past. Hence, there is no such proposal for consideration.

Foreign tourist visiting Karnataka

2141. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign tourists visited India during 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 till date;

(b) how many of them have visited Karnataka during the above period;

(c) whether Karnataka Government has prepared any plan to double the number of foreign tourists visiting Karnataka by the end of this year;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the amount sought by the Karnataka Government to develop tourist places in Karnataka during 2002-2003; and

(f) the amount if any, released to Karnataka during 2002-2003 under various tourism promotion projects?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Foreign tourist arrivals to India during the years 2001, 2002 and 2003 (Jan.-Feb.) are around 2.54 million, 2.36 million and 0.55 million respectively.

(b) Foreign tourist visits in the State of Karnataka during the years 2001, 2002 and 2003 (Jan.-Feb.) are 144402, 117621 and 13329 respectively.

(c) and (d) The steps taken by the State Government to increase the flow of tourists to the State include action to provide infrastructure facilities at all important tourists destinations, participation in all the important international tourism Marts to sell the tourism products of the State and distribution of publicity materials in the international market.

(e) and (f) During the year 2002-03, the Department of Tourism, Govt. of India, has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 782.49 lakhs and released Rs. 324.49 lakhs for development of Hampi, Kokkare Bellur, Konkan Riviera circuit and Beugle Rock Garden at Basavanagudi.

World heritage status to Hyderabad City

2142. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether out of the 730 sites under the World Heritage Committee 23 are in Inida;

(b) whether world heritage status is likely to be provided to Hyderabad City; and

(c) if not, whether Hyderabad would seek UNESCO nomination for this year as one city from India could be given the status through the good offices of Government?